

--Flow Cytometer Droplet Formation System--

2. Please amend the priority claim in the first paragraph on the first page of the specification of the application to read as follows:

12/6/04 This is a divisional application of parent application number 08/627,963, filed ~~September 16, 1996~~, ⁶¹³³⁰⁴⁴ issuing as United States Patent No. ~~5,588,888~~, which is a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) of parent application, filed April 16, 1996, of the same application number and now abandoned. The parent application filed April 16, 1996 was a File Wrapper Continuation (FWC) of the now abandoned original application, application number 08/323,270, filed October 14, 1994. The present application claims priority to, and incorporates by reference, each of the aforementioned applications.

In the claims:

1. Please cancel claims 1-43 and 69-82 without prejudice or disclaimer.

2. Please amend the claims as follows:

5/20/01 83. (once amended)

A system for creating a droplet from a jet of a flow cytometer comprising:

- a nozzle body having an inner surface;
- a nozzle tip having an inner surface;
- a seal located off of said inner surface of said nozzle tip and to which both said nozzle body and said nozzle tip are responsive;
- a sheath fluid port located within said nozzle volume wherein said sheath fluid port introduces a sheath fluid;
- a substance introduction port located within said nozzle volume; and
- a free fall area below said nozzle [exit] tip and within which said droplet forms.